

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

PLAINTIFF

v.

Joseph Benza, III

DEFENDANT.

☒ LA ☐ RS ☐ SA DATE FILED: 12/17/2024CASE NUMBER: 2:24-CR-00751-MWC ☐ Under Seal

INIT. APP. DATE: 12/19/2024 TIME: 1:00 PM

CHARGING DOC: Information

DEFENDANT STATUS: Appearing on Summons

☐ PREVIOUSLY CALENDARED HOSPITALIZED DEFENDANT

VIOLATION: 18:242

COURTSMART/REPORTER: CS 12/19/2024

PROCEEDINGS HELD BEFORE UNITED STATES  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE Maria A. AuderoCALENDAR/PROCEEDINGS SHEET  
LOCAL/OUT-OF-DISTRICT CASE

PRESENT: Leah Krivitsky

Deputy Clerk

J. J. Har  
J. J. Buxton  
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Interpreter / Language

☐ INITIAL APPEARANCE NOT HELD - CONTINUED☒ Court issues Order under Fed. R. Crim. P. 5(f) concerning prosecutor's disclosure obligations; see General Order 21-02 (written order).☒ Defendant informed of charge and right to: remain silent; appointment of counsel, if indigent; right to bail; bail review and  
☐ preliminary hearing OR ☐ removal hearing / Rule 20.☒ Defendant states true name ☐ is as charged ☐ is☐ Court ORDERS the caption of the Indictment/Information be changed to reflect defendant's different true name. Counsel are directed to file all future documents reflecting the true name as stated on the record.☐ Defendant advised of consequences of false statement in financial affidavit. All financial affidavits must be filed under seal.☒ Attorney: Tom Yu and Edward Robinson ☒ Retd. ☐ Apptd. ☐ Prev. Apptd. ☐ DFPD ☐ Panel ☐ Poss. Contribution  
Ordered (see separate order) ☐ Special appearance by:☐ Government's request for detention is: ☐ GRANTED ☐ DENIED ☐ WITHDRAWN ☐ CONTINUED☐ Contested detention hearing is held. ☐ Defendant is ordered: ☐ Permanently Detained ☐ Temporarily Detained (see separate order)☒ BAIL FIXED AT \$ 50,000.00 (SEE ATTACHED COPY OF CR-1 BOND FORM FOR CONDITIONS)☐ Government moves to UNSEAL Complaint/Indictment/Information/Entire Case: ☐ GRANTED ☐ DENIED☐ Preliminary Hearing waived. ☐ Class B Misdemeanor ☐ Defendant is advised of maximum penalties☐ This case is assigned to Magistrate Judge . Counsel are directed to contact the clerk for the setting of all further proceedings.☐ PO/PSA WARRANT ☐ Counsel are directed to contact the clerk for District Judge for the setting of further proceedings.☐ Preliminary Hearing set for at 11:30 AM in Los Angeles☐ Post-Indictment Arraignment set for: at 8:30 AM in Los Angeles☐ Government's motion to dismiss case/defendant only: ☐ GRANTED ☐ DENIED☐ Defendant's motion to dismiss for lack of probable cause: ☐ GRANTED ☐ DENIED☐ Defendant executed Waiver of Rights. ☐ Process received.☐ Court ORDERS defendant Held to Answer to District of☐ Bond to transfer, if bail is posted. Defendant to report on or before☐ Warrant of removal and final commitment to issue. Date issued:

By CRD:

☐ Warrant of removal and final commitment are ordered stayed until☐ Case continued to (Date) (Time) ☐ AM / ☐ PM☐ Type of Hearing: Before Judge /Duty Magistrate Judge.Proceedings will be held in the ☐ Duty Courtroom☐ Judge's Courtroom☐ Defendant committed to the custody of the U.S. Marshal ☒ Summons: Defendant ordered to report to USM for processing.☐ Abstract of Court Proceeding (CR-53) issued. Copy forwarded to USM.☐ Abstract of Order to Return Defendant to Court on Next Court Day (M-20) issued. Original forwarded to USM.☐ Electronic Release Order issued (if issued using Release Book: Release Order No. ).☒ Other: waiver of indictment submitted. via mail. see separate minutes.  
property address in CR-1 to be sealed.RECEIVED: ☒ PSA ☐ PROBATION ☐ FINANCIAL ☒ CR-10☒ READY

Deputy Clerk Initials

y  
: 30

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Case Name: United States of America v. Joseph Benza, IIICase No. 2:24-CR-00751-MWC☒ Defendant ☐ Material WitnessViolation of Title and Section: 18:242☒ Summons ☐ Out of District ☐ UNDER SEAL ☐ Modified Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check only one of the five numbered boxes below and any appropriate lettered box (unless one bond is to be replaced by another):

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Recognizance (Signature Only)<br>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Unsecured Appearance Bond<br>\$ _____<br>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appearance Bond<br>\$ <u>50,000</u><br>(a). <input type="checkbox"/> Cash Deposit (Amount or %) (Form CR-7)<br>(b). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affidavit of Surety Without<br>Justification (Form CR-4) Signed by:<br><u>Ramon Lopez, III - \$50,000</u><br><u>(Father-in-Law)</u> <u>unproperty</u><br><u>(\$25k to be replaced by a CR-3 no later</u><br><u>than 1/31/2025)</u><br><u>once CR-3 is submitted,</u><br><u>a new CR-4 is needed</u><br><u>for \$25k to be signed</u><br><u>by Ramon Lopez, III.</u> | (c). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affidavit of Surety With Justification<br>(Form CR-3) Signed by:<br><u>Joseph Benza, III</u><br>_____<br>_____<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> With Full Deeding of Property:<br>_____<br><u>(**ADDRESS TO BE SEALED**)</u><br>_____<br>_____<br>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Collateral Bond in the Amount of (Cash<br>or Negotiable Securities):<br>\$ _____<br>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Surety Bond in the Amount of:<br>\$ _____ | Release Date: <u>Summons</u><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Released by:<br><u>MAA / LK</u><br>(Judge / Clerk's Initials)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Release to U.S. Probation<br>and Pretrial Services ONLY<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forthwith Release<br><u>Upon the posting of a \$50k</u><br><u>CR-4</u><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Conditions of Bond<br>(Except Clearing-Warrants<br>Condition) Must be Met<br>and Posted by:<br><u>1/31/2025</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> Third-Party Custody<br>Affidavit (Form CR-31)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bail Fixed by Court:<br><u>MAA / LK</u><br>(Judge / Clerk's Initials) |
|---|--|---|

## PRECONDITIONS TO RELEASE

- ☐ The government has requested a Nebbia hearing under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(4).
- ☐ The Court has ordered a Nebbia hearing under § 3142 (g)(4).
- ☐ The Nebbia hearing is set for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m.

## ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF RELEASE

In addition to the GENERAL CONDITIONS of RELEASE, the following conditions of release are imposed upon you:

- ☒ Submit to United States Probation and Pretrial Services supervision as directed by Supervising Agency.
- ☒ Surrender all passports and travel documents to Supervising Agency no later than December 19, 2024, sign a Declaration re Passport and Other Travel Documents (Form CR-37), and do not apply for a passport or other travel document during the pendency of this case.
- ☒ Travel is restricted to CDCA unless prior permission is granted by Supervising Agency to travel to a specific other location. Court permission is required for international travel as well as for any domestic travel if the defendant is in a Location Monitoring Program or as otherwise provided for below.
- ☒ Reside as approved by Supervising Agency and do not relocate without prior permission from Supervising Agency.

Defendant's Initials: XJODate: 12/19/24



Case Name: United States of America v. Joseph Benza, III

Case No. 2:24-CR-00751-MWC

☒ Defendant ☐ Material Witness

- ☒ Maintain or actively seek employment unless excused by Supervising Agency for schooling, training, or other reasons approved by Supervising Agency. Verification to be provided to Supervising Agency. ☒ Employment to be approved by Supervising Agency.
- ☒ Avoid all contact, directly or indirectly (including by any electronic means), with any known victim or witness in the subject investigation or prosecution, ☐ including but not limited to \_\_\_\_\_; ☐ except for \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ Avoid all contact, directly or indirectly (including by any electronic means), with any known codefendants except in the presence of counsel. Notwithstanding this provision, you may have contact with the following codefendants without your counsel present: \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ Do not possess any firearms, ammunition, destructive devices, or other dangerous weapons. ☒ Surrender any such item as directed by Supervising Agency by no later than 12/23/24 and provide proof to Supervising Agency. ☒ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.
- ☐ Do not use or possess any identification, mail matter, access device (including, but not limited to, credit and debit cards), or any identification-related material other than in your own legal or true name without prior permission from Supervising Agency.  
☐ In order to determine compliance, you agree submit to a search of your person and property by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.
- ☐ Do not engage in telemarketing.
- ☐ Do not sell, transfer, or give away any asset valued at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or more without notifying and obtaining permission from the Court, except \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Do not engage in tax preparation for others.
- ☒ Do not use alcohol. ☒ Submit to alcohol testing. If directed to do so, participate in outpatient treatment as approved by Supervising Agency. Testing may include any form of prohibited-substance screening or testing. You must pay all or part of the costs for testing based upon your ability to pay as determined by Supervising Agency.
- ☒ Do not use or possess illegal drugs or state-authorized marijuana. ☒ Submit to drug testing. Testing may include any form of prohibited-substance screening or testing. You must pay all or part of the costs for testing based upon your ability to pay as determined by Supervising Agency. If directed to do so, participate in outpatient treatment as approved by Supervising Agency.  
☒ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.
- ☒ Do not use for purposes of intoxication any controlled substance analogue as defined by federal law or any street, synthetic, or designer psychoactive substance capable of impairing mental or physical functioning more than minimally, except as prescribed by a medical doctor.
- ☐ Participate in residential substance abuse treatment as directed by Supervising Agency. You must pay all or part of the costs of treatment based upon your ability to pay as determined by Supervising Agency. ☐ Release to Supervising Agency only.
- ☐ Participate in mental health treatment, which may include evaluation, counseling, or treatment as directed by Supervising Agency. You must pay all or part of the costs based upon your ability to pay as determined by Supervising Agency.

Defendant's Initials: *JB*Date: *12/19/24*

Case Name: United States of America v. **Joseph Benza, III**

Case No. 2:24-CR-00751-MWC

☒ Defendant ☐ Material Witness

- ☐ Participate in the Location Monitoring Program marked below and abide by all of the requirements of the program and any indicated restrictions, under the direction of the Supervising Agency. You must pay all or part of the costs of the program based upon your ability to pay as determined by the Supervising Agency. You are financially responsible for any lost or damaged equipment.

**1. Location Monitoring Restrictions (Select One)**

- ☐ **Location Monitoring only - no residential restrictions**
- ☐ **Curfew:** Curfew requires you to remain at home during set time periods. (Select One)
- ☐ As directed by Supervising Agency; or
- ☐ You are restricted to your residence every day from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ **Home Detention:** Home detention requires you to remain at home at all times except for employment, education, religious services, medical needs or treatment, attorney visits, court appearances and obligations, essential needs, and \_\_\_\_\_, all of which must be preapproved by the Supervising Agency.
- ☐ **Home Incarceration:** Home Incarceration requires you to be at home 24 hours a day except for medical needs or treatment, attorney visits, court appearances or obligations, and \_\_\_\_\_, all of which must be preapproved by Supervising Agency.

**2. Location Monitoring Technology (Select One)**

- ☐ Location Monitoring technology at the discretion of the Supervising Agency. (If checked, skip to 3)
- ☐ Location Monitoring **with** an ankle monitor (Select one below)
- ☐ at the discretion of the Supervising Agency **or**
- ☐ Radio Frequency (RF) **or**
- ☐ Global Positioning System (GPS)

or

- ☐ Location Monitoring **without** an ankle monitor (Select one below)
- ☐ at the discretion of the Supervising Agency **or**
- ☐ Virtual/Biometric (smartphone required to participate) **or**
- ☐ Voice Recognition (landline required to participate)

**3. Location Monitoring Release Instructions (Select One)**

- ☐ Release to Supervising Agency only **or** ☐ Enroll in the location monitoring program within 24 hours of release.
- ☐ You are placed in the third-party custody (Form CR-31) of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Clear outstanding ☐ warrants or ☐ DMV and traffic violations and provide proof to Supervising Agency within \_\_\_\_\_ days of release from custody.

Defendant's Initials: LBDate: 12/19/24



Case Name: United States of America v. **Joseph Benza, III**

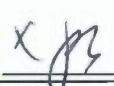
Case No. 2:24-CR-00751-MWC

☒ Defendant ☐ Material Witness

- ☐ Possess and use only those digital devices, screen usernames, email accounts, social media accounts, messaging applications and cloud storage accounts, as well as any passwords or passcodes for all such digital devices and accounts, that you disclosed to Supervising Agency upon commencement of supervision. You must disclose any new devices, accounts, application, passwords, or passcodes to Supervising Agency prior to the first use. A digital device is any electronic system or device that can access, view, obtain, store, or transmit digital data. ☐ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property, including digital devices, by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.
- ☐ All digital devices will be subject to monitoring by Supervising Agency. You must comply with the rules and regulations of the Computer Monitoring Program and must pay the cost of the Computer Monitoring Program.
- ☐ Do not use or possess more than one virtual currency wallet/account, and that one wallet/account must be used for all virtual currency transactions. Do not obtain or open a virtual currency wallet/account without prior approval of Supervising Agency. You must disclose all virtual currency wallets/accounts to Supervising Agency when supervision starts and must make them available to Supervising Agency upon request. You may use or possess only open public blockchain virtual currencies and are prohibited from using private blockchain virtual currencies unless prior approval is obtained from Supervising Agency. ☐ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property, including computer hardware and software, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.

**Cases Involving a Sex-Offense Allegation**

- ☐ Possess and use only those digital devices, screen usernames, email accounts, social media accounts, messaging applications and cloud storage accounts, as well as any passwords or passcodes for all such digital devices and accounts, that you disclosed to Supervising Agency upon commencement of supervision. You must disclose any new devices, accounts, application, passwords, or passcodes to Supervising Agency prior to the first use. A digital device is any electronic system or device that can access, view, obtain, store, or transmit visual depictions of sexually explicit conduct involving children. ☐ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property, including digital devices, by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement.
- ☐ All digital devices will be subject to monitoring by Supervising Agency. You must comply with the rules and regulations of the Computer Monitoring Program and must pay the cost of the Computer Monitoring Program.
- ☐ Do not associate or have verbal, written, telephonic, electronic, or any other communication with any person under the age of 18 except in the presence of the parent or legal guardian of the minor after you have notified the parent or legal guardian of the pending charges or convictions involving a sex offense and only as authorized by Supervising Agency
- ☐ Do not enter or loiter within 100 feet of schoolyards, parks, public swimming pools, playgrounds, youth centers, video arcade facilities, amusement and theme parks, or other places frequented by persons under the age of 18 and only as authorized to do so by Supervising Agency.
- ☐ Do not be employed by, affiliated with, own, control, or otherwise participate directly or indirectly in the operation of any daycare facility, school, or other organization dealing with the care, custody, or control of children under the age of 18.
- ☐ Do not view or possess child pornography or child erotica, including but not limited to pictures, photographs, books, writings, drawings, or videos depicting or describing child pornography. ☐ In order to determine compliance, you agree to submit to a search of your person and property, including computer hardware and software, by Supervising Agency, which may be in conjunction with law enforcement..

Defendant's Initials: Date: 





Case Name: United States of America v. Joseph Benza, IIICase No. 2:24-CR-00751-MWC☒ Defendant ☐ Material Witness**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEFENDANT/MATERIAL WITNESS**

As a condition of my release on this bond, pursuant to Title 18 of the United States Code, I have read or have had interpreted to me and understand the general conditions of release, the preconditions, and the additional conditions of release and agree to comply with all conditions of release imposed on me and to be bound by the provisions of Local Criminal Rule 46-6.

Furthermore, it is agreed and understood that this is a continuing bond (including any proceeding on appeal or review) which will continue in full force and effect until such time as duly exonerated.

I understand that violation of any of the general and/or additional conditions of release of this bond may result in a revocation of release, an order of detention, and a new prosecution for an additional offense which could result in a term of imprisonment and/or fine.

I further understand that if I fail to obey and perform any of the general and/or additional conditions of release of this bond, this bond may be forfeited to the United States of America. If said **forfeiture is not set aside, judgment may be summarily entered in this Court against me and each surety, jointly and severally, for the bond amount, together with interest and costs. Execution of the judgment may be issued or payment secured as provided by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and other laws of the United States, and any cash or real or personal property or the collateral previously posted in connection with this bond may be forfeited.**

12/19/24 [Signature] 4951-768-5077  
 Date Signature of Defendant / Material Witness Telephone Number  
Corona CA  
 City and State (DO NOT INCLUDE ZIP CODE)

☐ Check if interpreter is used: I have interpreted into the \_\_\_\_\_ language this entire form and have been told by the defendant that he or she understands all of it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Interpreter's Signature\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 United States District Judge / Magistrate Judge\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

If cash deposited: Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_ for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(This bond may require surety agreements and affidavits pursuant to Local Criminal Rule 46.)

Defendant's Initials: JBDate: 12/19/24